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April 17, 2006

## **VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL**

Commissioner for Trademarks P.O. Box 1451 Alexandria, VA 22313-1451

Re:

House of Blues Brands Corp. v. Celebrites Publishing Corporation

TTAB Opp. Nos. 91,165,901; 91,165,899 and 91,165,876 Serial Nos. 78/441,161; 78/441,158 and 78/441,156

Dear Commissioner:

We enclose for filing three (3) originals of Applicant's Answers to First Amended Notices of Opposition in the above-identified Oppositions. There are three total Answers being submitted herewith.

Please indicate receipt of these three Answers by stamping the enclosed pre-paid postage postcard, and return it to our office at the address on the letterhead above. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

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Chad M. Iida

**Enclosures** 

cc: Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP (Via First-Class Mail)

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04-24-2006

U.S. Patent & TMOfc/TM Mail Rcpt Dt. #3

#### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a).

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Trademarks, P.O. Box 1451, Alexandria, VA 22313-1451, on:

April 17, 2006

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# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE TRADEMARK TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

In the Matter of Application Serial No. 78/441,156 Filed June 24, 2004 Mark IN ROCK WE TRUST Published on June 7, 2005

House of Blues Brands Corp.,

Opposition No. 91,165,876

Opposer,

v.

Celebrites Publishing Corporation,

Applicant.

APPLICANT'S ANSWER TO FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF OPPOSITION; CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Commissioner for Trademarks P.O. Box 1451 Alexandria, VA 22313-1451

### APPLICANT'S ANSWER TO NOTICE OF OPPOSITION

Applicant Celebrites Publishing Corp. (hereinafter "Celebrites"), hereby responds as follows to the First Amended Notice of Opposition filed herein by opposer House of Blues Brands Corp:

- 1. Answering paragraph 1 of the First Amended Notice of Opposition, Applicant admits the allegations contained therein.
- 2. Answering paragraph 2 of the First Amended Notice of Opposition, Applicant admits the allegations contained therein.
  - 3. Answering paragraph 3 of the First Amended Notice of Opposition, Applicant

does not have sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the allegations contained therein, and based thereon denies each and every such allegation.

- 4. Answering paragraph 4 of the First Amended Notice of Opposition, Applicant does not have sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the allegations contained therein, and based thereon denies each and every such allegation.
- 5. Answering paragraph 5 of the First Amended Notice of Opposition, Applicant does not have sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the allegations contained therein, and based thereon denies each and every such allegation.
- 6. Answering paragraph 6 of the First Amended Notice of Opposition, Applicant does not have sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the allegations contained therein, and based thereon denies each and every such allegation.
- 7. Answering paragraph 7 of the First Amended Notice of Opposition, Applicant denies the allegations contained therein.
- 8. Answering paragraph 8 of the First Amended Notice of Opposition, Applicant does not have sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the allegations contained therein, and based thereon denies each and every such allegation.
- 9. Answering paragraph 9 of the First Amended Notice of Opposition, Applicant incorporates herein by reference, as though set forth in full, each and every admission, denial, and allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 through 9, inclusive.
- 10. Answering paragraph 10 of the First Amended Notice of Opposition, Applicant denies the allegations contained therein.
  - 11. Answering paragraph 11 of the First Amended Notice of Opposition, Applicant

admits that if registration is granted, it will obtain at least a *prima facie* exclusive right to use the IN ROCK WE TRUST mark in connection with the goods recited in application Serial No. 78/441,156, in Class 14. Applicant denies each and every other allegation contained in paragraph 11.

- 12. Answering paragraph 12 of the First Amended Notice of Opposition, Applicant incorporates herein by reference, as though set forth in full, each and every admission, denial, and allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 through 12, inclusive.
- 13. Answering paragraph 13 of the First Amended Notice of Opposition, Applicant denies the allegations contained therein.
- 14. Answering paragraph 14 of the First Amended Notice of Opposition, Applicant denies the allegations contained therein.
- 15. Answering paragraph 15 of the First Amended Notice of Opposition, Applicant denies the allegations contained therein.
- 16. Answering paragraph 16 of the First Amended Notice of Opposition, Applicant admits that if registration is granted, it will obtain at least a prima facie exclusive right to use the IN ROCK WE TRUST mark in connection with the goods recited in application Serial No. 78/441,156, in Class 14. Applicant denies each and every other allegation contained in paragraph 16.

#### **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

17. AS A FIRST SEPARATE AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE, Applicant alleges that the Opposition fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted in favor of Opposer and against Applicant.

- 18. AS A SECOND SEPARATE AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE, Applicant alleges that there is no likelihood of confusion, mistake or deception because, *inter alia*, Applicant's mark taken as a whole and the pleaded marks of Opposer are not confusingly similar.
- 19. AS A THIRD SEPARATE AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE, Applicant alleges that Opposer's claims are barred by the doctrines of waiver, estoppel, laches, and unclean hands.
- 20. AS A FOURTH SEPARATE AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE, Applicant alleges that its IN ROCK WE TRUST mark does not dilute Opposer's IN BLUES WE TRUST mark, *inter alia*, Opposer's mark is not famous or distinctive, and Applicant's mark is not identical or substantially similar to Opposer's mark.
- 21. AS A FIFTH SEPARATE AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE, Applicant reserves the right to assert additional defenses that may be revealed through investigation or discovery.

WHEREFORE, in view of the foregoing, Applicant contends that this opposition is groundless and baseless in fact; that Opposer has not shown that it will be, or is likely to be, damaged by the registration of Applicant's trademark; and that Applicant's trademark is manifestly distinct from any alleged mark of the Opposer or any designation of the Opposer.

Applicant prays that this Opposition be dismissed and that a Notice of Allowance of Applicant's trademark issue.

DATED: Honolulu, Hawaii, April 17, 2006.

By:

Cheel M Service Robert Carson Godbey

Jess H. Griffiths Chad M. Iida

Godbey Griffiths Reiss Chong

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Attorneys for Applicant

#### **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this APPLICANT'S ANSWER TO FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF OPPOSITION is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid addressed to: Commissioner for Trademarks, P.O. Box 1451, Alexandria, VA 22313-1451.

on

4/17/66 Chad M. Iida

Chad M. Iida

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE TRADEMARK TRIAL AND APPEALS BOARD

House of Blues Brands Corp.,

Opposition No. 91,165,876

Opposer,

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

v.

Celebrites Publishing Corporation,

Applicant.

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing APPLICANT'S ANSWER TO FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF OPPOSITION, and this CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE was served upon Opposer by first-class mail, postage prepaid, to its last known addresses and on the date set out below:

Kirt S. O'Neill Marissa Lawson Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP P.O. Box 12870 San Antonio, Texas 78212

Attorneys for Opposer

DATED: Honolulu, Hawaii, April 17, 2006.

Robert Carson Godbey

Jess H. Griffiths

Chad M. Iida

Attorneys for Applicant